



COLORADO CROP PROGRESS

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 16, 2018

Contact: Bill Meyer
(800) 392-3202

CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION
WEEK ENDING JULY 15, 2018

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Winter wheat harvest continued to progress ahead of average due to hot and dry conditions last week, according to the Mountain Region Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Precipitation was isolated across Colorado last week with some areas receiving substantial amounts and others receiving none. According to the latest U.S. Drought monitor report, severe to exceptional drought conditions expanded in western and southern counties. Winter wheat harvest continued in northeastern counties, with reporters noting yields varied depending on locality and amount of damaging hail the crop received. Most irrigated crops were noted to be growing well and benefited from recent hot temperatures. Storms late in the week alleviated dry conditions in dryland crops and pastureland, but areas that did not receive moisture continued to show drought stress. Livestock were reportedly doing well. East central county reporters noted winter wheat harvest was wrapping up last week. Several counties remained desperately dry with continued drought conditions. In southwestern counties, a reporter noted summer monsoon precipitation patterns started to develop last week, but received moisture was spotty. Rangeland grass was noted to be dormant due to drought with no growth observed. Irrigated pastures were noted to be under-producing due to hot temperatures. In the San Luis Valley, limited precipitation fell last week. Isolated areas received hail, causing damage to some alfalfa, barley, and potatoes. A reporter noted livestock producers continued to reduce their herds due to drought. Southeastern county reporters noted little rain was received last week. Conditions continued to degrade with livestock producers providing supplemental feed or liquidating herds due to drought and no available grass. Crop losses and abandonment were noted to be up. Reporters also noted irrigation water supplies in these counties were short with some ditches done for the year. Statewide, winter wheat harvested was at 80 percent complete, compared to 56 percent on average. Stored feed supplies were rated 8 percent very short, 22 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Sheep death loss was 35 percent average and 65 percent light. Cattle death loss was 59 percent average and 41 percent light.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
2 nd cutting harvested	44	25	38	36
Barley				
Headed	93	87	94	92
Turning color	28	13	16	22
Corn				
Silked.....	17	4	8	13
Dry edible beans				
Emerged.....	97	89	NA	NA
Blooming	34	20	20	21
Sorghum				
Headed.....	3	1	4	4
Spring wheat				
Headed	59	52	87	92
Turning color	7	5	17	26
Winter wheat				
Mature.....	95	81	96	88
Harvested	80	45	69	56

NA – not available
(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION				
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	27	21	7	12
Short.....	28	24	31	29
Adequate	44	53	60	56
Surplus.....	1	2	2	3
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	22	18	4	17
Short.....	29	25	27	26
Adequate	48	57	67	55
Surplus.....	1	--	2	2

NA – not available
(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION				
Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	8	8	--	5
Poor	15	15	6	8
Fair.....	30	27	26	25
Good	41	45	56	49
Excellent	6	5	12	13
Barley				
Very poor	--	1	--	--
Poor	1	1	--	1
Fair.....	36	31	23	20
Good	45	47	62	57
Excellent	18	20	15	22
Corn				
Very poor	4	2	6	4
Poor	6	5	10	7
Fair.....	20	23	16	21
Good	62	65	57	55
Excellent	8	5	11	13
Dry edible beans				
Very poor	12	14	--	--
Poor	25	16	11	4
Fair.....	14	19	29	36
Good	38	39	56	55
Excellent	11	12	4	5
Onions				
Very poor	1	--	--	1
Poor	2	--	--	3
Fair.....	24	34	43	21
Good	68	60	50	61
Excellent	5	6	7	14
Pasture and range				
Very poor	30	23	--	11
Poor	24	28	7	15
Fair.....	25	25	29	24
Good	21	23	55	41
Excellent	--	1	9	9
Potatoes inside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	--	--	--	NA
Poor	5	4	--	NA
Fair.....	19	16	24	NA
Good	48	54	50	NA
Excellent	28	26	26	NA
Potatoes outside San Luis Valley				
Very poor	2	--	--	NA
Poor	3	5	--	NA
Fair.....	12	5	14	NA
Good	64	74	82	NA
Excellent	19	16	4	NA
Sorghum				
Very poor	14	4	3	4
Poor	12	10	7	10
Fair.....	30	15	23	35
Good	40	70	61	48
Excellent	4	1	6	3
Spring wheat				
Very poor	13	20	--	1
Poor	1	1	3	5
Fair.....	15	20	25	30
Good	62	51	70	60
Excellent	9	8	2	4
Sugarbeets				
Very poor	1	2	--	--
Poor	4	7	1	2
Fair.....	17	20	16	16
Good	60	57	68	66
Excellent	18	14	15	16
Sunflowers				
Very poor	--	NA	--	1
Poor	--	NA	16	11
Fair.....	30	NA	28	32
Good	70	NA	50	45
Excellent	--	NA	6	11
Winter wheat				
Very poor	7	4	7	14
Poor	19	15	10	14
Fair.....	27	29	35	28
Good	38	49	35	34
Excellent	9	3	13	10
Livestock				
Very poor	2	--	--	--
Poor	2	2	--	3
Fair.....	13	16	12	17
Good	76	72	76	68
Excellent	7	10	12	12

NA – not available
(--) – zero